

## **BUDGET FOR GENDER JUSTICE: MAKE HOUSEHOLDS MATTER TO THE HOUSE.**

The above heading was the topic for discussion at the 2017 Pre Budget Public Forum hosted by the Institute for Gender and Development Studies in the Learning Resource Centre, the UWI, St. Augustine Campus on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 from 10am to 12pm.

The Chair was Dr. Gabrielle Hosein, Head, IGDS and the Panelists were:-

Dr. Marlene Attzs, Lecturer, Economics, The UWI,

Dr. Keron King, Lecturer, Criminology, COSTATT,

Dr. Oscar Noel Ocho, Director, School of Nursing, The UWI,

Mrs. Carolyn Seepersad-Bachan, Former Minister of Public Administration.

Special Presentation by:-

The Honourable, Camille Robinson Regis, Minister of Planning and Development.

Significant persons in the audience were Hazel Brown, Dr. Catherine Ali and the Vice Chancellor of the University, among others.

Not only was the topic timely, necessary, well presented and relevant for the last 2 decades, but the IGDS has maintained its high standard of discussion, from my experience with them, since they were a Centre in 1996, to now being a fully fledged Institute.

The session was full with videotaping equipment and I anticipate that a formal recording will be available soon at a reasonable cost, or placed on their website <http://sta.uwi.edu/igds/>.

During the Question and Answer session, I had questions for Dr. Attzs, Dr. King, Dr Ocho and the Minister of Planning and Development.

Most importantly, as our 2017-2018 Budget is around the corner, my enquiry was about the possible addition to our vital CDAP and GAPP programmes, in the form of an Infant to Toddler Partnership Programme (ITTPP), patterned after the GAPP Model and the removal of the limited, archaic methodology of measuring productivity in the GDP Services Sector, using a Human Resource Management Model, focusing on individuals being valuable and productive only when they enter the work force and demit it, at around 60 years.

The years prior to being GDP assessable and after so ceasing, are critical to the sustainable life of a nation, demanding that the time is and has been now, decades ago, for a Model that quantifies and qualifies the full cycle of our most important resource, our human resource in a Full Cycle Human Resource Management Model (FCHRM).

Sadly, the solution is so simple, many are amazed that it was never implemented. **I.e. our Personal Allowance system being adjusted to provide for reasonable compensation for unremunerated work effort.**

From the time a woman becomes pregnant, she and her partner, if she is in that kind of relationship, become Human Resource Managers, charged to prepare our next generation for joining the workforce and being productive citizens, thereafter joining the home community to assist in Household and Community Management, for those so inclined.

Those with such experiences are fully aware of this fact and the statistical data of crime, delinquency, dysfunctional relationships, prison and mental institution populations is enough testimony of uneducated and/or negligent management.

The Discipline which guides my continuous education is Architecture and my contribution to it has been philosophical in the main, to date, adhering to the philosophy of Organic Architecture, introduced by Frank Lloyd Wright (1867-1959) and placing Organicism as key in Developmental Architecture, noting the importance of Shelter in Development. The data records that humans can survive for 3 hours without shelter in a harsh environment, 3 days without water and 3 weeks without food under similar conditions.

Copies of these philosophies are housed in a web archive [www.archive.org](http://www.archive.org) searching donald berment or mavaw or just typing "The Soul Of Architecture" on opening the site. A more detailed link will be placed there soon titled "Organicism In Developmental Architecture".

However, 2 such philosophies, are critical to understanding "Household Matters" and their attention needed in the "House" for "Gender Sensitive Budgeting" and attached as JPEG Files to this email and FaceBook Posting, which are:-

1. The Ripple Effect Theory, presented in 1994 in the Queens Hall at a Chamber of Commerce Symposium on Crime, 23 years ago and still relevant.
2. A 3 Line Paper on Domestic Violence presented in UWI Engineering Room 101 in 1995 at a Symposium held the then National Women's Caucus, in which the Concept of Full Cycle Human Resource Management was detailed, 22 years ago and still relevant.

Finally, all and sundry need to understand, that every discipline has a Developmental Aspect, even the area of Academia and whereas, academic interventions may seem long in coming from some quarters, the evidence based approaches produce practical and more immediate dissemination at times.

May the Institute for Gender and Development Studies have a long and prosperous life continuing to disseminate and host the developmental aspects of Gender, inviting me at your convenience?

Signed.....Donald D. Berment, Specialist HSD/NGA/DVC.  
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